

2017

Annual Report

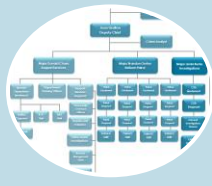
# BROOKHAVEN POLICE DEPARTMENT





Message From  
The Chief

3



Organizational  
Chart

4



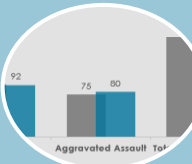
Mission  
Statement

5



Executive Staff

7



Crime Statistics

10



Uniform Patrol

15



Criminal  
Investigations

17



Support  
Services

19



North Metro  
S.W.A.T.

39



Emergency  
Communications

40



Project Safe  
Neighborhood

41



Brookhaven  
Awards

42



Honor Guard

43



Police  
Explorers

44



Connect With  
Us

45



Thank You  
Brookhaven

46

## *Dear Citizens of Brookhaven,*

It is with great pleasure that we present to you the 2017 Brookhaven Police Department annual report. This book is intended to provide you with crime data and trends that the City of Brookhaven witnessed for 2017. Additionally, it is the goal of this report to summarize our efforts made during 2017 to make the City of Brookhaven a safer, stronger community. Our city continues to witness growth in housing developments, large-scale construction projects, and a thriving restaurant and nightlife industry. During this continued growth and expansion, it is the goal of the Brookhaven Police Department to continue providing our flourishing community with a feeling of safety, security, and continued involvement. These efforts were made evident when the City of Brookhaven was named the "Safest City" in DeKalb and ranked in the top ten safest cities in Georgia with populations over 30,000.

With continued growth and expansion also comes challenges, and while 2017 was not immune to such difficulties, the men and women of the Brookhaven Police Department stepped up to every challenge they faced. Their continued commitment to the residents and businesses, their unwavering passion for policing, and their diligent efforts at establishing personal connections in their daily interactions truly make the City of Brookhaven a remarkable place.

We continued to expand our engagement with residents through community meetings and outreach programs in both our English and Hispanic communities. 2017 witnessed consistent efforts towards "humanizing the badge" and building stronger relationships with our residents. These were attempts to exemplify that at the core we are humans, men and women fueled with an innate passion to protect the community we serve, dedicated to fostering positive interactions with our residents, and committed to coming to work every day with the intent of doing the best we can at both.

In 2017, we continued to launch new police initiatives and cutting-edge technologies that are essential to fighting crime. But more than the progressive technology or advanced initiatives, we hope our dedication to the community we serve daily can be most clearly exemplified when our men and women put on their uniforms every day and start their tour of duty. In those moments, I see heroes in action and I am honored to work with such passionate and dedicated individuals – both sworn and civilian – every day. Their efforts and passion are certainly what has gotten us to where we are now and will continue to help us strive forward.

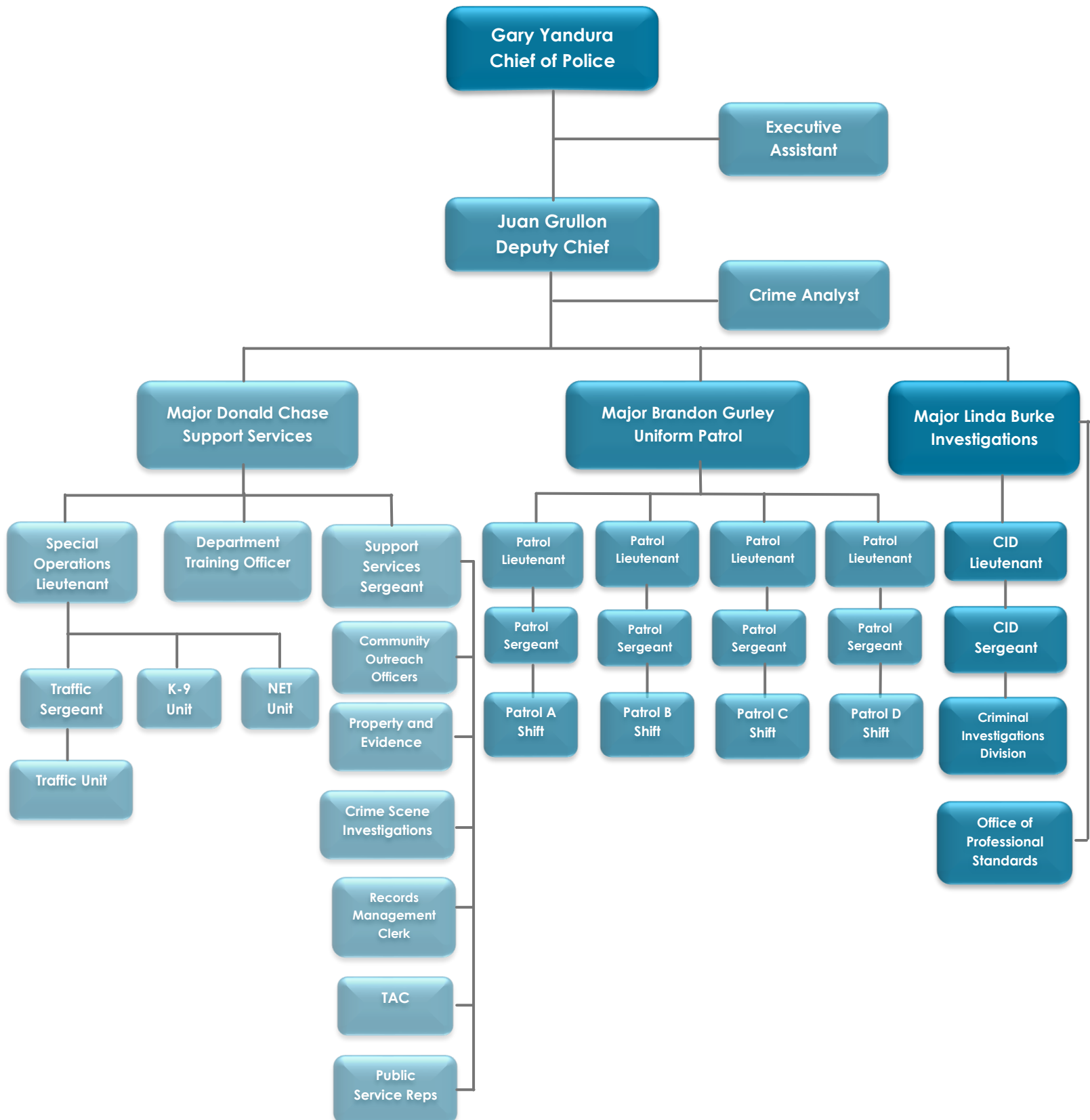
With the steadfast support of our community, we will continue to help build safe and strong neighborhoods throughout the City of Brookhaven.

Sincerely,  
Your Chief,

*Gary Yandura*



# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the **Brookhaven Police Department** is to enhance the quality of life for those within our community by providing professional, high quality and effective police services in partnership with the community.



Throughout 2017, the men and women of the Brookhaven Police Department worked tirelessly to provide professional services to the citizens of Brookhaven. The following pages will provide a mere glimpse of the of the services and accomplishments provided by the dedicated members of your Brookhaven Police Department for 2017.



## DEPARTMENT GOALS

The employees of the **Brookhaven Police Department** are dedicated to achieving the following goals:

Protection of life and property

Prevention, detection and investigation of criminal activity

Apprehension of offenders

Maintenance of public order

Recovery of Property

Training of officers

Compliance with ethical standards

Traffic control

Community service

Agency administration

Agency evaluation



## EXECUTIVE STAFF

**Chief Gary Yandura** was appointed Brookhaven Police Department's first chief in April 2013 following a national search. Chief Yandura launched the department, which began providing police services to the City of Brookhaven on July 31, 2013.

Chief Yandura previously served as Chief of Police in Hiram and College Park. Chief Yandura started his law enforcement career in Lake Forest, Ill., where he spent 24 years. He retired from Lake Forest as Deputy Chief.

During his law enforcement tenure, Chief Yandura has promoted open interaction and worked with numerous community groups, including Citizens Police Academies, Volunteers in Policing, National Night Out, Shop with a Cop and Neighborhood Watch.

Chief Yandura is a graduate of the FBI Academy and has recently worked with law enforcement in the Republic of Georgia and Israel. He has a Master's in Public Administration from Roosevelt University in Chicago and a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Illinois.

He also is on the executive boards of Atlanta Metropol, DeKalb DFCS, Georgia International Law Enforcement Executive Exchange program (GILEE), and Georgia NAMI.



**Deputy Chief Juan Gullon** joined the Brookhaven Police Department in May 2013. Prior to joining Brookhaven, Deputy Chief Gullon worked for the East Point and Dunwoody Police Departments, where he served as a firearm, K-9 and training instructor. He has worked special operations, narcotics, criminal investigations, K-9 training and served as assistant SWAT commander.

Deputy Chief Gullon is a graduate of the Georgia Association Chiefs of Police Executive training, FBI National Academy, and the Drug Enforcement Administration's Leadership Commander Academy.

## EXECUTIVE STAFF



**Major Brandon Gurley** joined the Brookhaven Police Department in April 2013. He had previously worked for the Paulding County Sheriff's Office and Sandy Springs Police Department. During his career, he has worked in the 9-1-1 center, detention center, patrol, investigations and more. Major Gurley also served as team leader for the Paulding County SWAT team and the Crisis Negotiations Team for both Paulding and Sandy Springs. He was afforded the opportunity to be a part of the startup and development of Brookhaven's first police department. Major Gurley has commanded both the Support Services Division and the Uniform Patrol Division for the Brookhaven Police Department. Major Gurley has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and is a graduate of Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command. He and his wife have two young children.

**Major Linda Burke** began working in law enforcement in 1983 at the Fulton County Police Department as a precinct secretary and worked her way up to crime scene investigator in 1990. In 1992, she began working for the College Park Police Department and rose through the ranks to Major. She commanded Support Services, Office of Professional Standards and Criminal Investigations. Major Burke joined the Brookhaven Police Department in June of 2013 and has served as Commander of Support Services and is currently Commander of Criminal Investigations and Internal Affairs. Major Burke has a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from Mercer University and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Columbus State University. Major Burke has two children, one is a graduate of the University of Georgia and one currently attends Kennesaw State University.



**Major Donald Chase** has over thirty years of law enforcement experience. He enjoys interacting with the community and remains committed to the enhancement of the quality of the department. Major Chase possesses a passion for training. He is dedicated to preparing officers with the best means to perform their jobs safely while providing a quality service to the public.

## EXECUTIVE SUPPORT

**Rossana Morales-Romero** began her career in law enforcement administrative support in 2006 with the start-up of the Sandy Springs Police Department. She thoroughly enjoys the endeavor of starting a new company from the ground up as she has also assisted in the commencement of the Chatcomm 911 center as their Training Coordinator and then joined the City of Brookhaven in starting up the police department.

Rossana joined the Brookhaven Police Department in May 2013 as the Executive Assistant to the Chief of Police and currently facilitates administrative and financial duties for the department.

Rossana and her husband, who is a police officer for a local agency, have a beautiful, young daughter and reside in the metro Atlanta area.



**Abby Bell** has been the Crime Analyst for the Brookhaven Police Department since October 2016. In this role, she provides analytical support to the department by evaluating crime trends and patterns. She also works closely with the Criminal Investigations Division, assisting in the investigative and intelligence gathering process in active investigations.

Abby began her career in law enforcement in 2012 as a Police Cyber Specialist within the Cyber Unit at the Marietta Police Department. Abby Bell has a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice and Bachelor's Degree in Information Systems from Kennesaw State University. She has attended Intelligence and Analysis training classes and is in the process of obtaining certification as a Crime and Intelligence Analyst.



## CRIME STATISTICS

### UCR Part I Offenses

To gain a measurement of crime trends, Georgia participates in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's **Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR)** Program. The goal is to generate a set of criminal statistics for use in law enforcement administration, operation and management.

Crimes are classified as "Part I" or "Part II" offense categories. **Part I offenses include murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, and larceny/theft.** The crimes in this group are all serious, either by their very nature or because of the frequency with which they occur, and present a common enforcement problem to police agencies. All other crimes are considered Part II offenses and are not reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.



2016

1620

Part I Offenses

+3.0%

from 2016

2017

1669

Part I Offenses

## CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

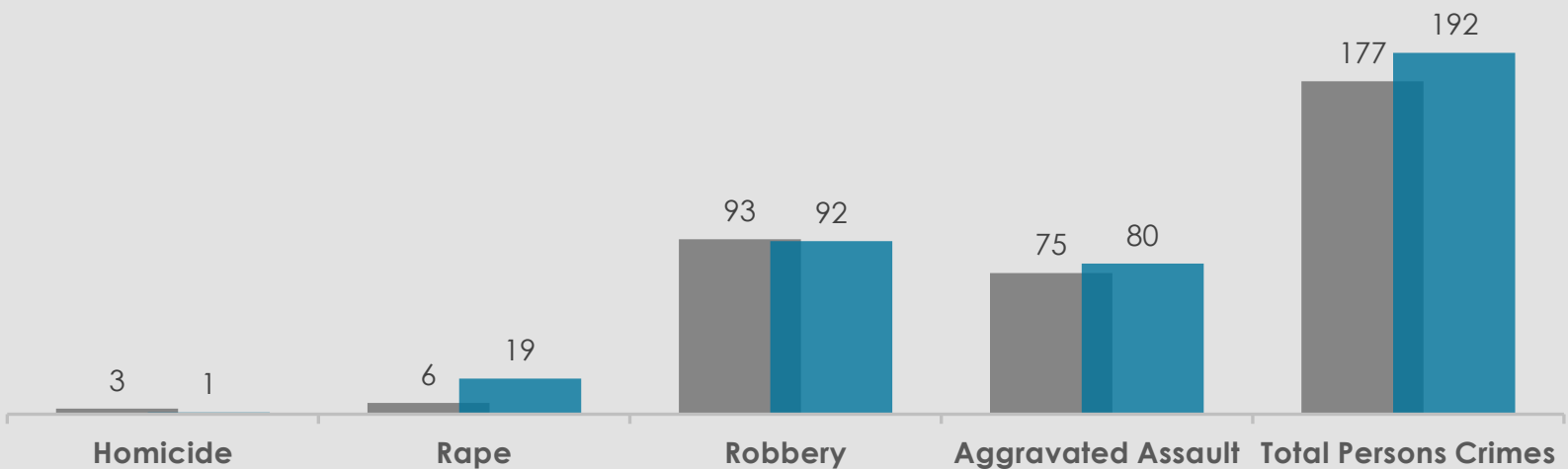
**Crimes Against Persons** include Murder, Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault. While these types of crimes typically represent the smaller percentage of Part I Offenses, they are generally more violent and severe in nature.

**192**  
Crimes Against  
Persons

**+8.5%**  
from 2016

### Crimes Against Persons

■ 2016 ■ 2017



## CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY

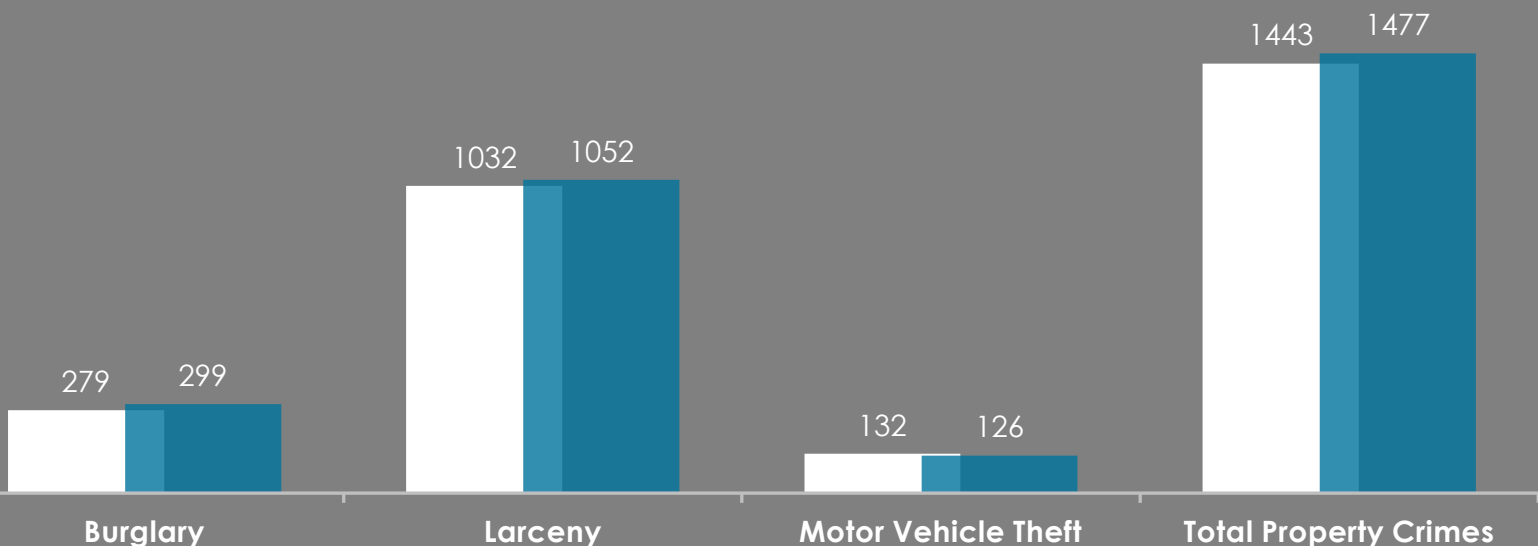
**Crimes Against Property** include Burglary, Larceny, and Motor Vehicle Theft. These types of cases do not involve force or violence but generally represent the highest percentage of Part I Crimes.

**1477**  
Crimes Against  
Property

**+2.4%**  
from 2016

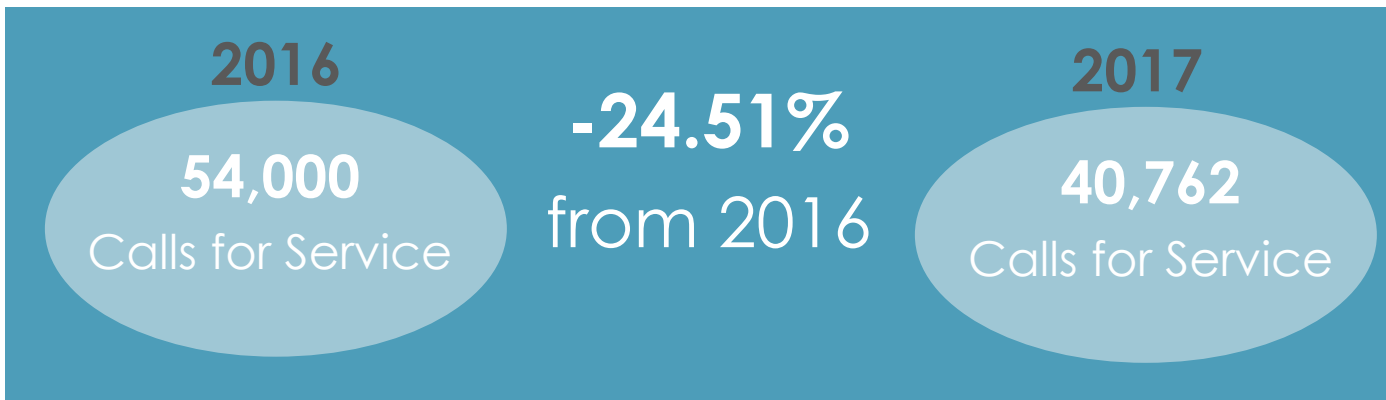
### Crimes Against Property

■ 2016 ■ 2017

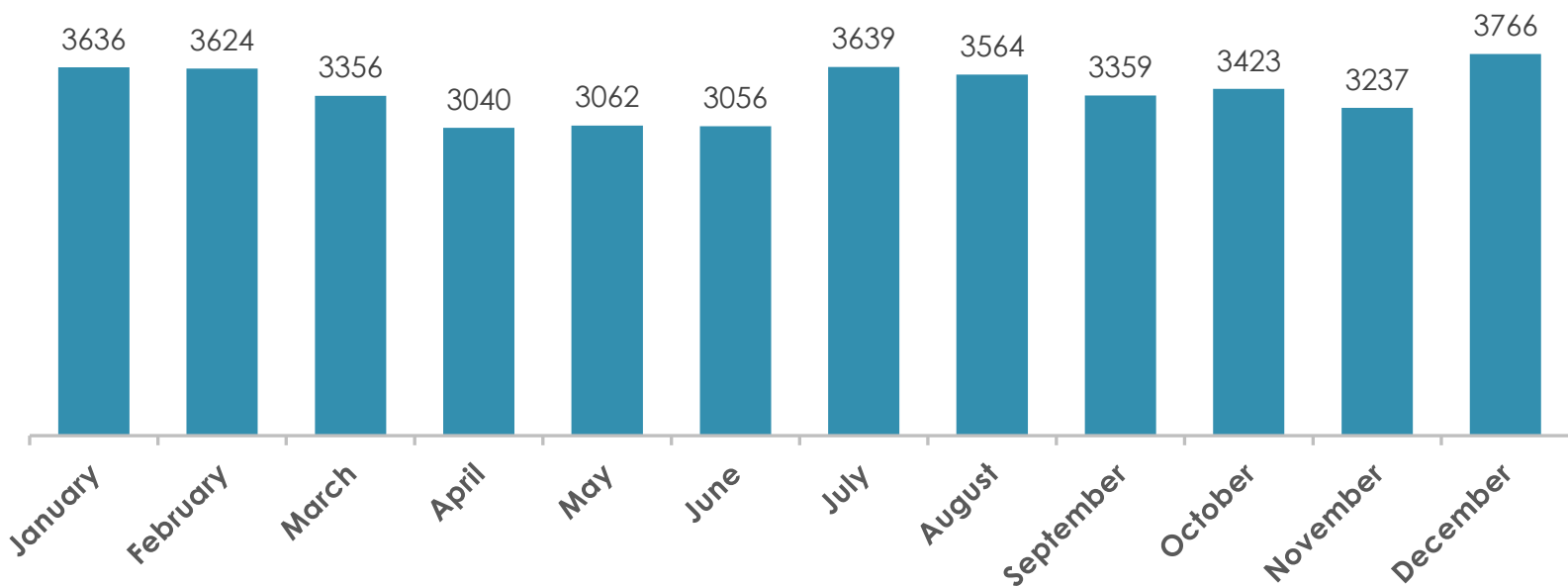


## CALLS FOR SERVICE

**Calls for service** consist of any call in which the Brookhaven Police Department responds, regardless of whether an incident or accident report is generated. Many calls for service do not require the generation of any type report, such as assisting a stranded motorist or a false burglary alarm. While there are many calls that officers respond to on a daily basis, some calls are also self-initiated. Self-initiated calls are proactive patrols initiated by officers to deter and prevent crime such as, business checks, neighborhood checks, traffic stops, and special details.



### 2017 Calls For Service



## ARRESTS & OFFICER ACTIVITY

**Officer Activity** is represented by the number of field interviews completed and accidents worked, as well as, incident reports, citations and warnings written by Brookhaven officers in 2016 and 2017. Field interviews decreased by 48.72%, accidents decreased by 8.25%, incidents reported decreased by 9.68%, citations written increased by 5.32% and warnings written increased by 41.10%. Additionally, arrests made by Brookhaven officers decreased by 19.0% between 2016 and 2017.

**2016**

**2296**  
Arrests

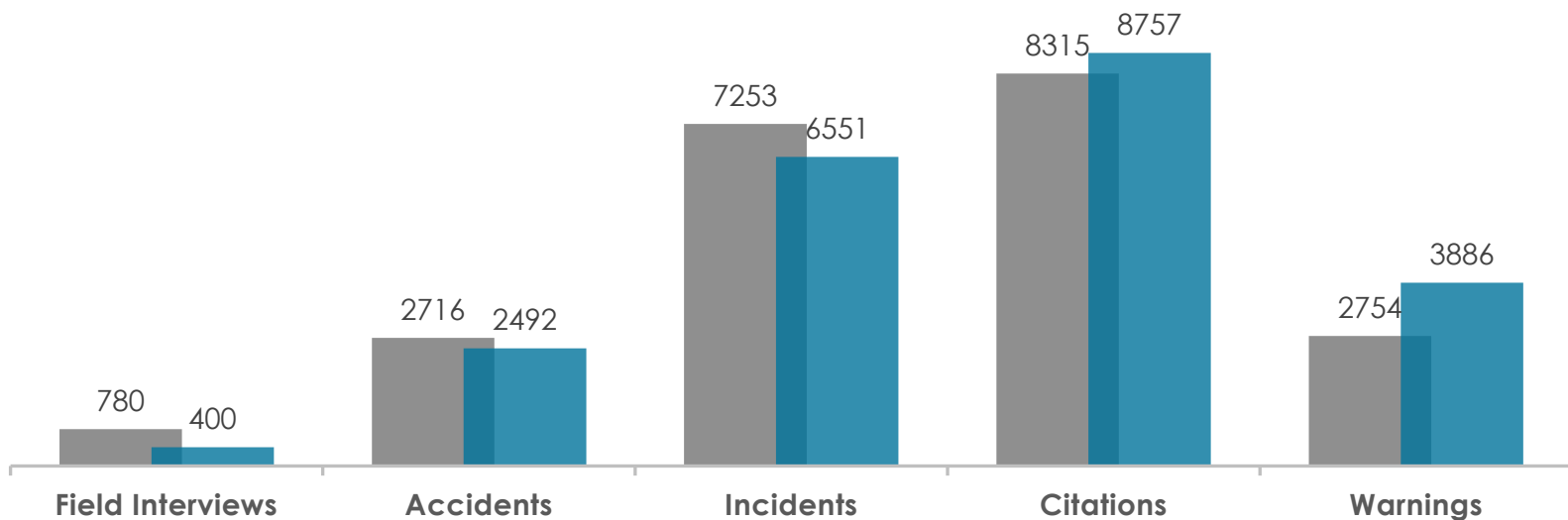
**-19.0%**  
from 2016

**2017**

**1871**  
Arrests

### Officer Activity 2016 - 2017

■ 2016 ■ 2017



## UNIFORM PATROL



**The Uniform Patrol Division is the largest and most visible division within the department. This division is broken down into four separate shifts and each shift is supervised by a Lieutenant and a Sergeant. The division commander holds the rank of Major.**

Each day and each night, Brookhaven officers are deployed throughout the city, assigned to their specific beat or detail, to ensure safety of residents, businesses, and visitors of Brookhaven. Patrol officers are the department's first responders to calls for service and they are expected to be able to handle many diverse and difficult situations.

In addition to handling calls for service and writing reports, these officers also perform a multitude of other duties including, but not limited to, neighborhood patrols, preventative and saturation patrols in high crime locations, enforcing traffic laws, conducting accident investigations, directing traffic, conducting field interviews, conducting preliminary criminal investigations, comforting crime victims, looking for missing children and adults, obtaining information from residents about neighborhood problems and issues, handling incidents they observe, initiating action-based events occurring in their presence, and whenever necessary, arresting criminals.

## UNIFORM PATROL



### A Day in Uniform Patrol...

### Brookhaven Officer Commended for Saving Life

On the morning of November 21, 2017, Brookhaven Police Officer Sarah Miller was on patrol around Ashford Dunwoody Road and Johnson Ferry Road when she heard an unusually loud sound. The sound was followed by a power outage. Officer Miller checked the surrounding area and located a large group of people gathered around two workers that had been electrocuted in a nearby construction site.

They were identified as Carlos Moran and Miguel Zabaleta. Miguel Zabaleta was conscious and breathing on his own. Carlos Moran was at the base of the hill with CPR in progress by other co-workers. Officer Miller advised them to continue CPR while she retrieved her city issued Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

After deploying her AED, one shock was administered to Mr. Moran who began to breath on his own. Officer Miller continued to direct other construction workers to assist her with lifesaving measures. Both patients were transported to an area hospital for further treatment and made a full recovery. It is without question that Officer Miller's swift actions, professionalism, and training helped save Mr. Moran's life.

## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

The Criminal Investigations Division is under the command of a Major and is supervised by a Lieutenant and Sergeant who are responsible for assigning cases and overseeing daily operations. There are seven detectives assigned to the division who handle all criminal investigations within the city.

2,082 Cases  
Assigned

82 Search  
Warrants

129 Arrests

### Suspects disguised as elderly men rob Brookhaven jewelry store



### Cops: Gwinnett man wanted in DeKalb killing tied to 'drug activity'

Joshua Sharpe - The Atlanta Journal-Constitution  
5:02 p.m. Friday, June 9, 2017 Filed in DeKalb County



Edward Tavaraz

### Suspect in custody after SWAT standoff at Guitar Center

By: Steve Gehlbach

Updated: Aug 6, 2017 - 6:32 PM



The **Criminal Investigations Division** provides primary investigations for criminal cases reported by the public. The mission of the Criminal Investigations Division is to investigate, identify, target, arrest, and successfully prosecute individuals involved in criminal activity in a way that maintains the professional standards and expectations of a modern law enforcement organization. Types of cases investigated include Burglaries, Frauds, Robberies, Thefts, Sexual Assaults, Domestic Violence, Homicide, Human Trafficking and Child Abuse. In 2017, there were 2,082 cases assigned, 82 search warrants executed, and 129 arrests secured by our Criminal Investigations Division.

## NOTABLE CASES IN 2017

### Jewelry Store Robbery

On November 28, 2017, Brookhaven Patrol Officers were dispatched to Ermitage Jewelers in reference to an armed robbery that had just occurred. Brookhaven Patrol Officers learned two individuals entered the business wearing "old white people masks." One of the suspects presented a handgun and the other deployed pepper spray to the faces of the store employees. The suspects then zip tied the employees, moved them to the back room and stole a large amount of Rolex Watches. Brookhaven Detectives immediately began an investigation by collecting the video surveillance. By reviewing the video, detectives were able to identify multiple suspect vehicles and the origin of one of the masks. A joint investigation between police departments in Nebraska, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas and multiple FBI offices, Brookhaven Detectives were able to identify the two offenders. Brookhaven Detectives utilized video surveillance, License Plate Readers, Cell Phone Data, Cell Tower Data, Pawn Records and multiple search warrants to obtain arrest warrants against the two offenders for armed robbery, kidnapping, and aggravated assault. At this time, one offender is currently in custody at the DeKalb County Jail, while warrants have been obtained on the second offender.

### Homicide

In June 2017, Brookhaven Officers responded to the Avana Upton Apartments in reference to a person shot. Patrol Officers arrived on scene and located the victim suffering from multiple gunshot wounds and was pronounced deceased at the hospital. Multiple search warrants were executed and through the course of the investigation, two suspects were charged and arrested for Felony Murder and Armed Robbery. It was learned that that both offenders met with the victim and robbed him for cash during a drug transaction.

### Armed Robbery Series

During the months of November and December 2017, Brookhaven Patrol Officers responded to a series of pedestrian armed robberies that had occurred on the Buford Hwy Corridor. The offenders would arrive at the location in their vehicle and communicate with each other by cellphone to locate their victims. Once a victim was identified, they would rob them at gunpoint. With a joint investigation with DeKalb County Police Department and Chamblee Police Department, two suspects were identified and have been arrested and charged with 6 counts of armed robbery each, with additional charges pending.

## SUPPORT SERVICES

The **Support Services Division** is comprised of several different functional areas including the Public Service Representatives Office, Records Management, Terminal Agency Coordinator, Budget Management/Financial Support, Community Oriented Policing, Special Operations (N.E.T./K-9), Training, Traffic Unit, Fleet Management, Transport, and Court Security.



The **Mission of the Support Services Division** is to facilitate the operational support of the police department, foster the effective and efficient delivery of police services, and ensure that quality training and standards are maintained within the Brookhaven Police Department.

The **Support Services Division** is under the command of a Major who handles the departmental budgeting, purchasing, and expenditures. Support Services is managed by a Lieutenant who manages the N.E.T., K-9, and Traffic Unit, as well as a Sergeant who oversees the day-to-day operations and community policing activities.

## ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

**Administrative support** is made up of (4) Public Services Representatives (PSR), (1) Records Management Clerk, and (1) Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC).

**Chardea Chayne**, the departmental *Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC)*, is the person designated to serve as a liaison between the agency head and the Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC) for Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) network related matters. The TAC is responsible for the agency's compliance with Georgia Bureau of Investigations GCIC and Federal Bureau of Investigations NCIC rules and regulations. Chardea has been employed with the Brookhaven Police Department since May 2015 as a Public Service Representative but obtained the position as the TAC in 2017. Chardea was born and raised in Decatur, GA and received her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Columbus State University in 2009.



The Records Management Clerk, **Suzanne Rice**, has worked in Law Enforcement records for 11 years, and worked with two other local police agencies, prior to coming to Brookhaven in 2013. Suzanne is responsible for setting retention schedules, policies and management for the Records Division. She is tasked with answering open records inquiries. She provides professional management, protection, retention and destruction of all police records. Suzanne is also responsible for reporting the department's statistics to the GBI for federal UCR, and assisting other entities, such as the DA and the Solicitor General's offices, with investigative case files. Suzanne is additionally responsible for the creation and management of the police department's State Accreditation Certification files. Suzanne was recently elected by her peers to serve on the Board of Directors for the Georgia Records Association, as Director of Social Media/Marketing.

## SPECIAL OPERATIONS - N.E.T. & K-9

The Neighborhood Enforcement Team (N.E.T.) serves to support the Brookhaven Police Department's Uniform Patrol Division and Criminal Investigations Division by conducting crime suppression and street level narcotics investigations.

N.E.T. currently consists of a supervisor and two officers who work closely with investigators and the Crime Analyst; reviewing crime patterns and targeting problem areas. N.E.T.'s objective is to reduce crime and prevent property loss within identified areas of concern by developing strategies and implementing operations that will successfully resolve specific criminal activities, most often through arrest of offenders.

Additionally, one officer on the N.E.T team is attached to Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) as a Task Force Officer/Investigator.

In 2017, N.E.T. & K-9 Had Below Arrests & Seizures:

**187 Arrests**

**\$82,349 in  
Currency**

**Narcotics  
Valued at  
\$90,378**



## SPECIAL OPERATIONS - N.E.T. & K-9

The K-9 Unit currently consists of two K-9 Officers and two K-9s. The K-9 Team is certified in various areas, such as, narcotics detection, tracking, obedience, criminal apprehension, building and area searches and evidence recovery.

### K-9 Thorr

During May 2017, the Brookhaven Police Department added K-9 "Thorr" to the roster. Thorr is a dual-purpose K-9, patrol and narcotics detection, and was purchased from K-9 Concepts in Broussard, LA. Officer Williams was assigned as Thorr's handler and both attended a three-week handlers course in Broussard, LA in June. Officer Williams and K-9 Thorr attended and successfully completed their Patrol Certification through the National Narcotic Detector Dog Association (NNDDA) in July 2017. Officer Williams and Thorr have since been certified through National Police Canine Association.



### K-9 Dano



K9 "Dano" and Officer Fikes have been teamed together since March 2014. K9 Dano is a 7 ½ year old Belgian Malinois. Officer Fikes and K9 Dano hold certifications in narcotics and patrol through the National Narcotic Detector Dog Association (NNDDA), The American Work Dog Association (AWD), The National Police Canine Association (NPCA) and The International Forensic Research Institute (IFRI). During 2017, K9 Dano and Officer Fikes were called upon to assist other local, state and federal law enforcement agencies as well as the Brookhaven Police Department. K9 Dano and Officer Fikes were responsible for seizing a total of \$49,926 in U.S. currency.

## SPECIAL OPERATIONS - TRAFFIC UNIT

The Brookhaven Police Department launched their Traffic Safety Unit in December 2016 and the success of the unit was made evident in 2017. The unit is supervised by a Sergeant and consists of the grant-funded pedestrian safety officer and two traffic safety officers.

### PEDESTRIAN SAFETY GRANT

The Brookhaven Police Department was awarded a \$64,000 Pedestrian Safety Grant by the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) in October 2016. The **Pedestrian Safety Officer (PSO)** position created by this grant was responsible for pedestrian and vehicular traffic enforcement as well as a community educational component. The PSO issued 1,795 warnings and citations in 2017 which represented 20% of the Brookhaven Police Department's annual total. Due to the success of the grant in its first year The Brookhaven Police Department renewed the grant in October 2017. In addition to numerous public safety community and school events the PSO distributed 1,070 safety items and 375 educational items.



## SPECIAL OPERATIONS - TRAFFIC UNIT

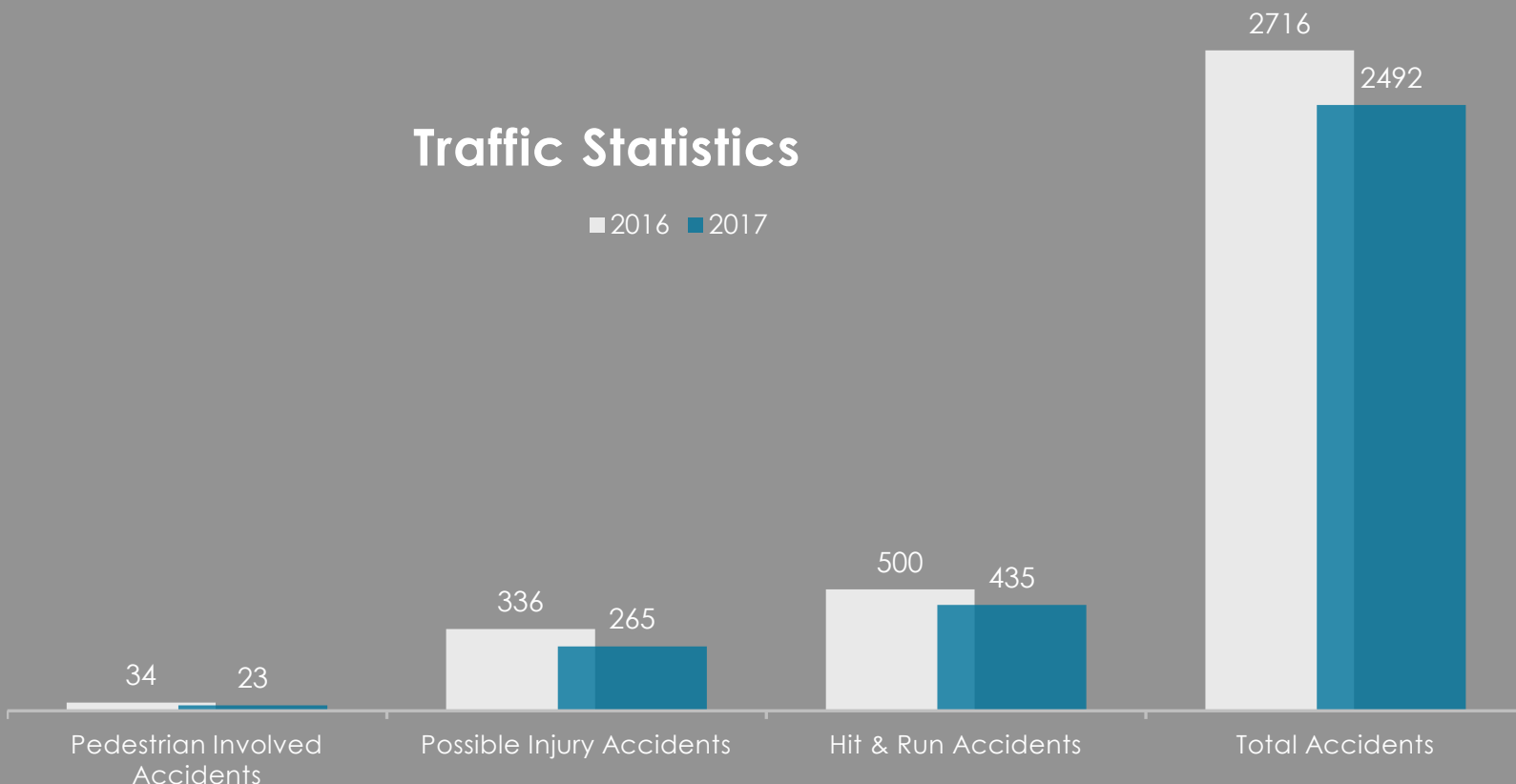
In 2017, the Traffic Safety Unit was responsible for responding to citizen traffic complaints, enforcing Georgia traffic laws, investigating hit and run accidents, and conducting speed studies. The Traffic Unit participated in GOHS campaigns to encourage seat belt usage, reduce DUI's and distracted driving, and reduce speed violations. The remaining staff of the unit issued 937 citations and warnings which accounted for 10.7% of the Brookhaven Police Department's 2017 total.



In addition to the Traffic Unit's traditional duties, during 2017, they participated in monthly Metro Atlanta Traffic Enforcement Network (MATEN) meetings, bimonthly GOHS Task Team meetings, Brookhaven Police Department Hispanic Citizens' Academy, citizen ride-alongs, National Night Out, Walk to School Day, Coffee with a Cop, Copsicles, teen driving presentations, Brookhaven Cherry Blossom Festival, Touch a Truck, and the Peachtree DeKalb Air Show. The Traffic Safety Unit also attended 2017 Georgia Walks Summit, 2017 GOHS Conference, and NAMI Walks.

### Traffic Statistics

■ 2016 ■ 2017



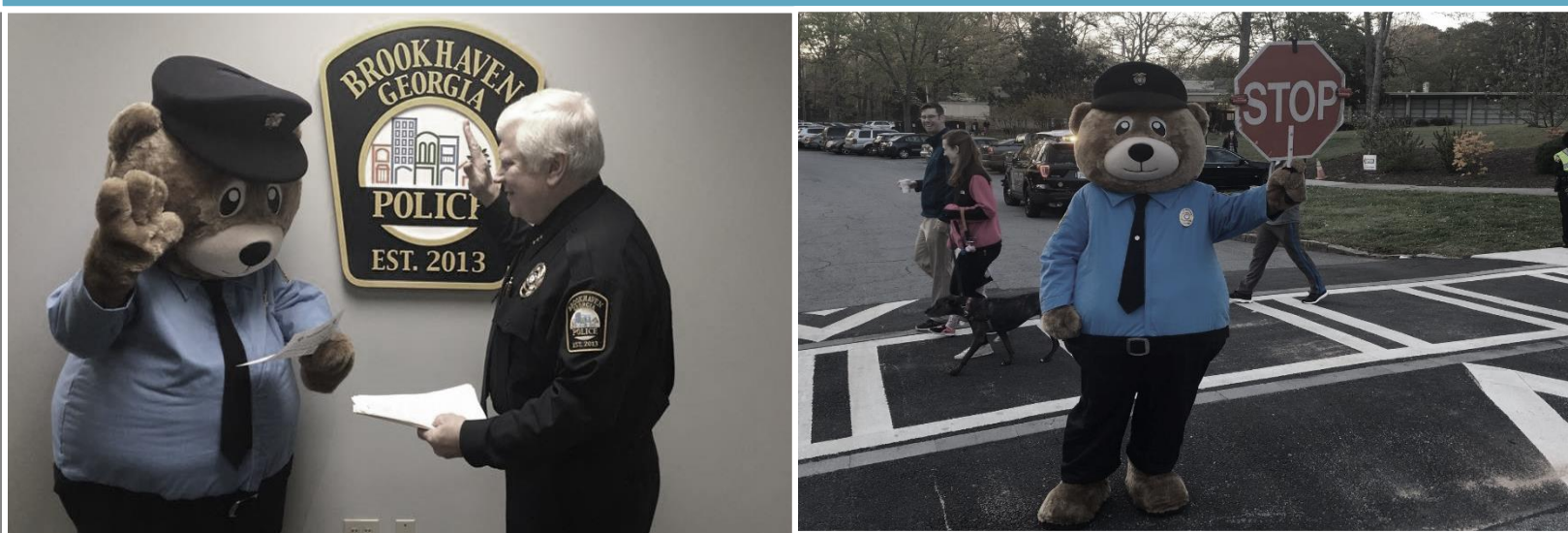
## IN THE COMMUNITY

Perhaps more than ever before, community oriented policing is paramount to establishing a strong partnership between law enforcement agencies and the respective people they serve. Through this type of policing, law enforcement officers have the ability to improve the quality of life in their community by establishing interactive partnerships that transcend cultural and stereotypical barriers. As community engagement grows stronger over time, we hope to effectively identify the underlying causes of criminal behaviors and proactively prevent crime, while continuing to strengthen the relationship with the City of Brookhaven.

**The Brookhaven Police Department understands the challenges in creating collaborative partnerships with our stakeholders. These relationships are imperative to develop practical solutions to attack crime trends in the City of Brookhaven. Our Community Policing Program allows us to identify and address immediate conditions that can escalate to public safety issues such as crime, fear of crime, and social disorder.**



## IN THE COMMUNITY



Officer Barry, one of our newest members of the Brookhaven Police Department, was sworn in by Chief Yandura in December 2017. His first official on duty experience was on December 9, 2017 where he was an active participant in the Brookhaven Police Shop with a Badge event. Since this event, Brookhaven Barry has become an integral part of the department making numerous appearances. His contributions at other events throughout the city are quickly allowing him to become the face of Brookhaven.



## IN THE COMMUNITY



### Coffee with a Cop

Every month, the Brookhaven Police Department meets with the citizens to discuss their respective concerns over a hot cup of coffee. These events are held at various locations to include coffee shops, grocery stores, hotels, and the police precinct. This is a great opportunity for our citizens to interact with the command staff and officers from other divisions. This program is very essential to maintain community engagement and reiterate our commitment to protecting and serving the City of Brookhaven.



### Copsicles

In an effort to engage the youth in the community, the Brookhaven Police Department took a summer spin on "Coffee with a Cop" and initiated "Copsicles" during the summer months of 2017. Visiting various parks around the city, Brookhaven officers handed ice-cold popsicles to both children and adults in attempts to continue fostering better community relations with all ages. In addition to popsicles, our citizens received various Brookhaven gear, such as sunglasses, stickers, bracelets, and trading cards.

## IN THE COMMUNITY

### Shop with a Badge

Perhaps, the most gratifying community endeavor that we organize in the community is the “Shop with a Badge” program. The purpose of this program is to uplift the spirits of the kids in our community by assisting with their Christmas needs. In 2017, we reached a new record high of 65 individual kids that were sponsored by the program. For the first year, Brookhaven partnered with Mercy Clinic who referred 35 families. In addition to their referral, the Boys & Girls Club referred an additional 30 families. Each kid received a \$200 allowance. Children were escorted around the store by police personnel from Brookhaven Police Department, DeKalb Sheriff's Office, Georgia State Patrol and ChatComm 9-1-1.

### Hot-Pursuit 5K Run

The Hot-Pursuit 5K was developed to promote fundraising for the “Shop with a Badge” program. Since its inception in 2014, this event has been successful in attracting a variety of participants and sponsors throughout the area. In alignment with years past, the contributions and efforts made during the 2017 event to aid our “Shop with a Badge” program were significant and appreciated. This 4<sup>th</sup> annual event differentiated from years past as it was featured as a “Glow Run” and received the highest number of participants which resulted in raising \$28,300. The unwavering support by the community has allowed us to provide monetary assistance to families in need during the Christmas season.

## IN THE COMMUNITY

### Brookhaven Officers and Students Together (BOAST)

The goal of this program is to bridge the gap between our officers and students in our community. Our officers attend activities at local schools that foster an environment of mutual respect and collaboration to enhance academic achievement. The objective is to create a first line of defense against disorder and crime by establishing a relationship of trust with the youth in the community. In addition to teaching students values and discipline, they are provided awareness on crime prevention techniques to help reduce the likelihood of being victimized.

By:



### National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

The mission of NAMI Georgia is to empower affiliates to create communities where all affected by mental illnesses find hope, help, and acceptance through Support, Education & Advocacy.

The Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) is a collaboration of professionals committed to assisting persons with behavioral health disorders (mental illnesses, developmental disabilities, Alzheimer's disease and addictive disease).

### NAMIWalks 2017

The Brookhaven Police Department is proud to be a part of the Georgia CIT NAMI program, with our own Chief Gary Yandura on the Board of Directors. In 2017, Brookhaven PD, alongside other law enforcement agencies from the state, participated in the NAMIWalks 2017 event. The funds raised from this event benefit NAMI and are applied to education programs, support groups and mental health training.

National Alliance on Mental Illness

## IN THE COMMUNITY

### National Night Out

The 2017 National Night Out was a multi-jurisdictional effort. Officers from Brookhaven, Dunwoody, Sandy Springs, and Johns Creek joined residents to celebrate police-community partnerships. National Night Out strengthens the relationship between officers and citizens in a true sense of community. Our community members participated in crime prevention activities and ate some delicious food that officers prepared.

### Fill-A-Cop Car Food Drive

In November 2017, The Brookhaven Police Department hosted its 3<sup>rd</sup> **Fill-A-Cop-Car** food drive event. Officers were stationed at two participating Kroger stores within the Brookhaven city limits. In just a few hours, our citizens graciously donated nearly 1,600 pounds of non-perishable grocery products, which were taken to the Atlanta Community Food Bank. A special thank you to our citizens for their generosity and support in this endeavor!

## ADOPT-A-COP PROGRAM

Adopt-a-cop started in April 2017 when Deacon Ed Patterson and Communications Director Anne Stephens, from Our Lady of Assumption Church, met with Deputy Chief Juan Grullon and Sgt. Jake Kissel regarding initiation of the program. The idea was to bring the members of the Department closer to the members of the parish and school. The basis of the program was to “**humanize the badge**” and to give the community a better idea on who the officers were as people.



What started as friendly exchange of letters and gifts quickly evolved into something very special. The department receives letters for officers on a daily basis from members of the Parish and the officers are constantly in communication and connecting with their “adopted” families as well. Some officers have met their families for lunch or dinner while others have attended school functions and sporting events. The partnership with Our Lady of Assumption Church has been nothing short of amazing. They have supported the police department in every endeavor, from participating in the Citizen’s Police Academy and volunteering for the Hot Pursuit 5K and Shop with a Badge event. By the end of 2017, 144 parish families have adopted 54 Brookhaven Police employees.

## ADOPT-A-COP PROGRAM

"Thank you from the bottom of my heart for creating such a program. I believe I speak for all the men and women in blue, when I say we appreciate people like you and your church. I appreciate great citizens who are concerned for our wellbeing, so we can make our communities all a safer place." **Officer Maria Jones**

*"Thank you for all that you and all that the wonderful OLA families are doing for our Department. Please know that we are all so sincerely appreciative."* **Sergeant David Snively**

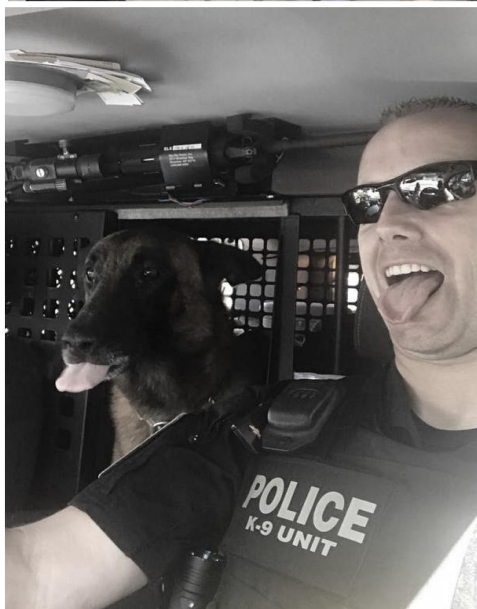


"I have received a few cards in my mailbox in the past two months. I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you for the thoughts and prayers coming my way. I really do appreciate it and I feel blessed to have such support from OLA. Please extend my gratitude." **Officer Tommy Lefever**

*"I have heard from our families and let me say thank you for what you and they do. I'm sure you hear this a lot, but it really does feel good to know people care about me and my family. Thanks again for all you do for us."* **Lieutenant Moises Vargas**



## IN THE COMMUNITY



## IN THE COMMUNITY



## TRAINING

Georgia Peace Officer's Standards and Training Council requires that every law enforcement officer receive a minimum of 20 hours of training per year to maintain their arrest powers. Recognizing the importance of professional, well-trained officers, Brookhaven requires 40 hours of training annually, doubling the state mandate. Law enforcement is a dynamic profession and is constantly changing due to new laws and numerous judicial interpretations by courts in Georgia and around the country. Brookhaven realizes the importance of remaining vigilant and continuing to train officers, so they are equipped to face the many challenges that they encounter daily.



In 2017, Brookhaven officers received 921 total combined hours of firearms training, 172 hours of use of force training, and 10,083 total combined training hours to include defensive tactics, in-service training, and roll call training.

## TRAINING

In 2017, Brookhaven Police launched its **Crisis Intervention Team (C.I.T.) training program**. The Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training is a dynamic collaboration of professionals committed to people with mental illness and other brain disorders. The CIT program is presented by the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in collaboration with the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, and the Georgia Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

The program is a forty-hour course curriculum approved by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council as follows:

1. Classroom instructional training involving various mental health topics that address mental illnesses, developmental disabilities, and addictive diseases
2. Site visits to local emergency receiving facilities and state psychiatric hospitals
3. Performance-based training involving the development of de-escalation techniques and crisis intervention skills via role-play scenarios



Law enforcement officers who successfully complete the course are equipped with the skills necessary to safely and effectively respond to individuals with mental health needs and in crisis. In 2017 Brookhaven PD trained over **60 public safety professionals** from agencies throughout metro Atlanta including: DeKalb County Marshall's Office, Dunwoody Police, GA Tech PD, Gwinnett Schools PD, GA DPS-MCCD, and Milton Police. Brookhaven officers also assist other agencies throughout metro Atlanta facilitate the training within their agency.

## COMMUNITY TRAINING

### CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY (CPA) AND HISPANIC CPA

The Brookhaven Citizens Police Academy (CPA) and Hispanic CPA are designed to educate the public on the management and operations of a police department. The program allows the students the opportunity to learn about the department's various divisions, detectives, dispatchers, and their respective functions.

In 2017, the City of Brookhaven Police Department hosted a Citizens Police Academy (CPA) class which trained 10 graduates on topics including patrol functions, investigations, crime scene unit, use of deadly force, use of force simulation, and the firing range.

Additionally, in 2017, the Brookhaven Police Department hosted it's second Hispanic Citizens Police Academy. The program attracted a total of 20 Latino participants from Brookhaven over a period of ten weeks.



*"On behalf of all the students of the second citizens police academy carried out by this department, we would like to thank you for taking the Hispanic community into account for this great event. This academy has taught and made us realize the great work, effort, dedication, commitment, and dangerous work you do on a day to day basis for all of us. We have learned that you are great human beings... We have learned that a police officer is a FRIEND, whom we should be supporting everyday while they carry out their daily tasks and assisting them in every way we have to offer... We want you to know that this does not end here, that this is just the beginning of an alliance between the Officers of the Brookhaven Police Department and the citizens of Brookhaven in order for our community to be better and safer each and every day."*

*Officers, May God Bless You Always,  
The Second Hispanic Citizens Police Academy*

## CRIME SCENE / PROPERTY & EVIDENCE

The Brookhaven Police Department has a full-time **Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) Unit**. The unit is staffed by two full-time, state-certified Crime Scene Investigators with almost 30 years of combined experience in law enforcement investigations. The CSI Unit is on call 365 days a year to respond to significant crimes where evidence preservation, collection and documentation is their primary function.

This unit is attached to the Criminal Investigations Division and works side by side with detectives. The CSI Unit also has the ability to process evidence in the on-site evidence lab located within the Brookhaven Police Department.

In December 2017, Shelby Little joined the Brookhaven Police Department as the department's newest Crime Scene Investigator. Prior to working for Brookhaven, Investigator Little began her career in Law Enforcement in 2014 with the Union City Police Department where she served as a patrol officer and an investigator. While working in Union City she completed the courses and training to become a Certified Crime Scene Technician within the State of Georgia, along with becoming a Certified Marijuana Examiner. In her three years with Union City she worked over twenty homicides as a CSI. She is now excited to continue her career and with the Brookhaven Police Department as the City and Department continue to grow.



### Forensics, Fingerprints, and Our Future...

In 2017, Crime Scene Investigators conducted two demonstrations with two local private schools. The children were able to learn how fingerprints are processed and identified. The children were then able to lift their own fingerprints under the direction of the investigators. This was as enjoyable for the investigators as it was the children. CSI also participated in teaching crime scene classes to the Citizens Police Academy. These are just a few examples of how the Brookhaven Police Department interacts with the community to build stronger relationships.

## NORTH METRO S.W.A.T.

With the combined strength of four cities, the North Metro SWAT unit allows for swift and complete response to tactical situations as well as high-risk warrant response to over 280,000 of our citizens. The North Metro SWAT unit also includes tactical paramedics along with a Crisis Negotiation Team and Logistics Team comprised of officers from each of the four agencies.

Equipped with specialized firearms and equipment, the North Metro SWAT unit is able to respond to the following types of incidents: hostage rescues, counter-terrorism operations, service of high-risk arrest and search warrants, barricaded suspects, engagement of heavily armed criminals, and dignitary protection.

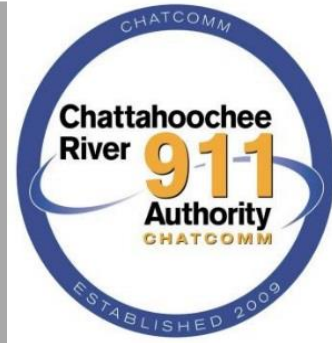
The Brookhaven Police Department has five officers assigned to the **North Metro SWAT Team** (founded in 2009) on an on-call status. This special weapons and tactics unit consists of over 30 officers and combines personnel and resources from the Brookhaven, Sandy Springs, Johns Creek and Dunwoody Police Departments. **In 2017, the North Metro SWAT unit responded to three calls for service. One call involved barricaded persons, one call assisted with an undercover prostitution detail, and one call was high-risk with warrants served.**



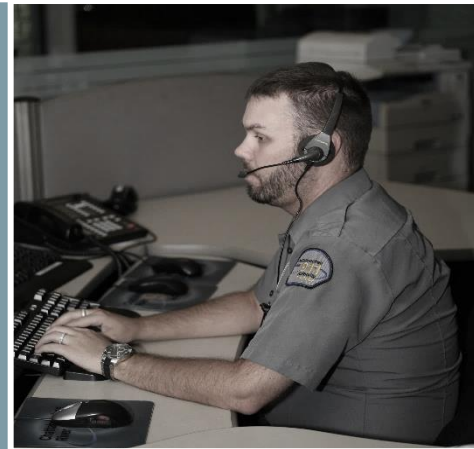
## EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

The City of Brookhaven uses Chattahoochee River 9-1-1 Authority, otherwise known as **ChatComm**, to provide 911 Communications.

ChatComm, is an accredited, state-of-the-art E911 center providing exceptional service and proven performance standards to the cities of Sandy Springs, Dunwoody, Johns Creek and Brookhaven. By joining the ChatComm team, our department inherited added technology including automatic vehicle location devices and silent dispatch capabilities, which has enhanced our overall responsiveness to the community.



ChatComm is one of the first centers in the metro area to accept TEXT to 911. If you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech disabled, or are in a dangerous situation, you can TEXT 911. **Remember: call when you can, text if you can't.**



## Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) Grant

The Brookhaven Police Department was selected by the US Department of Justice and the US Attorney for the District of Northern Georgia to be the fiscal agent and manage the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Grant. The PSN Initiative is a program through the US Attorney to assist local police agencies and community partners in combating Criminal Street Gangs and help funnel gang cases for federal prosecution. In addition, there is a Gang Prevention element that helps prevent at risk youth from becoming involved in Gang Activity. The PSN Task Force is currently made up of Brookhaven Police, DeKalb County Police, Chamblee Police, the US Attorney's Office, and Rehoboth Baptist Church.



In 2017, the PSN Task Force conducted a number of joint operations and investigations. The enforcement operations included assisting with operation Clean Sweep, a fugitive apprehension operation with the DeKalb County Sheriff's Fugitive unit. This operation located, and arrested multiple wanted persons, to include five known gang members. One of these gang members was wanted for aggravated assault on a Georgia State Trooper. The PSN Task Force also assisted the Brookhaven Police with plain clothes operations checking on and documenting suspected gang activity in the nightclub establishments on Buford Hwy. The PSN Taskforce meets monthly and has conducted joint operations throughout the member agencies areas of operation. These efforts have resulted in the presentation of over twenty cases to the US Attorney's for prosecution.

In addition, the PSN Task Force has been working to prevent at-risk youth from joining Criminal Street Gangs. This effort is being spearheaded by Rehoboth Baptist Church. Rehoboth runs an after-school program that provides basketball and other sports to Middle and High School Students. Rehoboth also provides tutors from local colleges to assist these at-risk students in being successful in their education and having a positive role model. These efforts have contacted hundreds of at-risk youth. In addition, officers from the PSN Task Force conduct regular Anti-Gang Programs in DeKalb County Schools. These programs reach students from Elementary to High Schools.

## BROOKHAVEN AWARDS

### City Council Awards

In June 2017, The Brookhaven City Council was proud to recognize three individuals for their contributions to the City. For his life-preserving negotiations during a hostage situation involving two barricaded gunmen, Officer T. Lefever was awarded the Department's Distinguished Service Medal. For his quick apprehension of an armed robbery and aggravated assault suspect, involving a foot pursuit, Officer C. McCoy was awarded a Department Commendation. And, for exceptional investigative efforts which led to the unveiling of a large-scale identity theft and credit card fraud operation, Crime Analyst Abby Bell was awarded the Department Commendation.



### Positive Policing Award



In May 2017, Officer Carlos Nino was awarded the ASIS International Positive Policing Initiative Award. Throughout 2016, Officer Nino contributed significantly towards the Shop with a Badge program, oversaw the 2016 Hot Pursuit 5K and facilitated over a dozen "Coffee with a Cop" meetings. Perhaps most significantly, Officer Nino was instrumental in developing the Hispanic Citizen's Police Academy which began Summer 2016. Officer Nino's unwavering commitment and efforts have allowed him to be well known throughout the City of Brookhaven and particularly within the Hispanic community therein.

### "Brookhaven Ranked Top 10 in Georgia for Safest Cities"

In 2017, Brookhaven was recognized as being ranked number ten for the safest cities in Georgia with populations over 30,000 by SafeHome. SafeHome (a home security company) analyzed FBI violent and property crime data from 2015 to determine the safest cities in Georgia. Conclusions of the study also ranked Brookhaven as the safest city in DeKalb County.

## HONOR GUARD

### The Brookhaven Police Honor Guard Unit made debut appearances in 2017!

Founded in late 2016, the Brookhaven Police Honor Guard is comprised of eight officers devoted to perfecting their skills in marching, flag details, flag folding, and funeral details. Their unwavering commitment to the team can be seen in their monthly meetings, training sessions, and attendance at details around the community and state. Their continued pledge to perfection was evident at their debut appearances in 2017, and they continue to strive for excellence in each additional detail they are asked to perform.



March 2017 was the Brookhaven Honor Guard's first official presentation when they presented the colors for the opening season for the Murphey Candler Little League's 60<sup>th</sup> season. In May 2017, the Honor Guard was requested by the DeKalb County Marshal's Office to present the colors during the swearing in of the new DeKalb Marshal, Richard I. Berkowitz.

The Unit was also honored with the privilege to perform the official raising of the United States Flag at Brookhaven Police Headquarters in October 2017 and rendered honors at the DeKalb Peace Officers' Memorial in May 2017.

## POLICE EXPLORERS

### The Brookhaven Police Explorers continued a tradition of excellence in 2017!

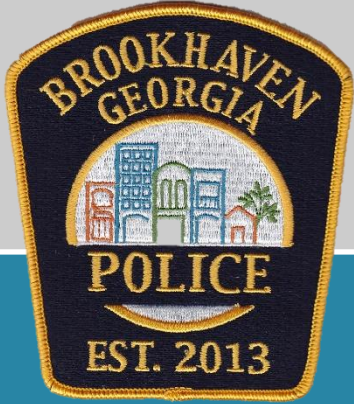
Founded in 2015, the Brookhaven Police Explorers allow young men and women aged 14-21 to experience careers in policing firsthand. Explorers meet every Thursday night for two hours and participate in police academy style training classes. Topics include: criminal law and procedure, police tactics and techniques, first aid and CPR, active shooter response, traffic crashes, investigations, and many more. The Post was founded by Sergeant David Snively, who began his own career as a police explorer.



During 2017 the Brookhaven Explorers participated in a number of community service events, including the Brookhaven Bolt and Shop with a Badge Glow Run. They also competed in state and regional skills competitions around the southeast. For the third consecutive year, Brookhaven Police Explorers placed in the top ten teams of every event they entered!

The largest competition of the year was the annual Winterfest Explorer Competition. Held in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, the event drew more than 125 teams representing 85 law enforcement agencies in 11 states. The BPD explorers were ranked top-ten in each of the six events they undertook, including **FIRST** in Crisis Negotiation, and **THIRD** in the Written Exam.

## CONNECT WITH US



The Brookhaven Police Department understands the importance of effective communication with the public. When conducting time-sensitive investigations, it may be critical to seek assistance from the community in locating dangerous criminals or obtaining further information. Using various social media platforms, the Brookhaven Police Department can quickly communicate pertinent information to the public, as well as, educate the public, disseminate safety tips, and engage one another to foster a sense of community. We have thousands of followers on Facebook (7300), NextDoor (11,400), and Twitter (2500).

Since the control of crime and other community issues should be a joint effort between the police and the citizens of Brookhaven, we encourage all members of the community to get connected with our department and to get involved in your neighborhoods.

**In any emergency situation, or if you believe you may be witnessing a crime in progress, dial 911 immediately.**



[twitter.com/BrookhavenGA\\_PD](https://twitter.com/BrookhavenGA_PD)



[facebook.com/BrookhavenPD](https://facebook.com/BrookhavenPD)



[facebook.com/PoliciadeBrookhavenGA](https://facebook.com/PoliciadeBrookhavenGA)



[nextdoor.com/agency-detail/ga/brookhaven/brookhaven-police-department/](https://nextdoor.com/agency-detail/ga/brookhaven/brookhaven-police-department/)



## THANK YOU, BROOKHAVEN, FOR ANOTHER GREAT YEAR!



*Dear Citizens of Brookhaven,*

While on patrol in the City of Brookhaven I was asked, "Has anyone said thank you today?" The question took me slightly by surprise but made me think. My response was an ecstatic, "yes!" For the past couple of years, I have been thanked nearly every day for the service I, along with every other officer in Brookhaven, provide. The relationship built between the citizens of Brookhaven and its Police Department are unparalleled. However, most officers have no want for thanks or gratitude. By no means are your officers just being modest, it's just unimaginable for us to receive thanks when it is our utmost pleasure to serve you. We appreciate your support.

*-Officer K. M. Martinez*

## BROOKHAVEN MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL & CITY MANAGER



**John Ernst**  
Mayor



**Linley Jones**  
District 1



**John Park**  
District 2



**Bates Mattison**  
District 3



**Joe Gebbia**  
District 4



**Christian  
Sigman**  
City Manager



**2665 BUFORD HIGHWAY, BROOKHAVEN GA 30324**

404-637-0600